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Associated Press Wirephoto

Leaders gather at the State Department on the situation in the Middle East. Massachusetts, House majority leader; chairman of House Foreign Affairs committee, minority leader of the Senate.

## SYRIAN REDS' LINK TO SOVIET QUERIED

Denial of Aim for Moslem War Against Israel Studied as to Moscow's Intent

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, April 10—Reports that the Soviet Union was recruiting Moslems for a holy war against Israel have attracted interest here. United States officials attach significance to a denial of the report by the leading Syrian Communist.

Khalid Bakdash, Deputy in the Syrian Parliament, was the principal Middle East Arab to attend the recent congress of the Soviet Communist party in Moscow. He declared on April 5 that the Arab countries were not in need of volunteers. They are in need, he said, of arms and unconditional aid, and this is what the Soviet Union has been offering them.

Mr. Bakdash's statement was published by the Arab New Agency.

United States officials do not believe the Soviet Union wants war in the Middle East. They have received no evidence that the Soviet Union is building up a force that could be used in a Middle East war like the Chinese Communist "volunteers" in Korea.

But they believe the Soviet is trying to inflame Israeli-Arab relations and Egypt's opposition to the Baghdad Pact to a point short of war.

The passions of nationalism and anti-Westernism are being exploited by the Soviet Union, these officials hold, in the hope of destroying the Western defensive and economic structure in the Middle East without war. Then the Soviet Union might move into the area unopposed.

The first and most obvious Soviet objectives, it is said, are the Baghdad Pact and the 1950 declaration by the United States, Britain and France.

The Baghdad Pact is a defensive alliance of Britain, Turkey, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan. The 1950 declaration was a statement of intent by the three powers to oppose by unspecified means any aggression on the Israeli-Arab border.

The officials said the United States had no intention of acceding to suggestions made in Western newspapers that the pact had come to transform the tripartite declaration of 1950 into

a quadripartite declaration, with Soviet participation, and otherwise to recognize that the Soviet Union had a legitimate role in the Middle East.

The officials doubt that the Russians would in any case accept an invitation at this point to join a quadripartite declaration, guarantee or other device in the Middle East.

If they can make ineffective the structures of the existing tripartite declaration and the Baghdad Pact, they may later be able to join the councils of the Middle East as a matter of right, the officials hold.

For these reasons, the officials said, United States policy remains to keep the Russians out of the Middle East area wherever possible.

The officials said current Soviet policy in the area had been best expressed in Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin's report to the Supreme Soviet on the Geneva Big Four meeting last July.

"It is known," Marshal Bulganin said, "that in some countries of Europe and the Near and Middle East the movement for a policy of neutrality is continuously growing. Such an aspiration is understandable enough, for it is known from the past that countries which pursued a neutral policy insured security for their peoples and played a positive part."

He said the Soviet Union was prepared to take part in a four-power guarantee of the security of any country that wished to maintain neutrality.

United States officials presume that he had in mind four-power guarantees of neutralized Middle East nations as an alternative to the Baghdad Pact.

## SOFIA SHIFTS FORECAST

Premier Expected to Resign in Move to End 'Cult'

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, April 10—(Reuters)—The Bulgarian Parliament has been summoned for a special session Monday, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported from Sofia today.

It is generally expected that Vulko Chervenkov will resign as Prime Minister at this session. He was criticized by the Communist party central committee last week-end for heading a Stalinist "personality cult."

Mr. Chervenkov, who has been Premier since 1950, was violently attacked at a five-day secret meeting of the central committee but it was unofficially reported that he had replied strongly to his critics.

Unconfirmed reports forecast he would be replaced by first vice premier, who would take Mr. Chervenkov's place.

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ing. He Mr. Hagerty also reported exploit- that the President had conferred "cold twice by telephone with Secretary ge, and of State Dulles on the Middle East. In the second anging conversation shortly after noon, Mr. out the Dulles reported to the President fending on his meeting in Washington ing the with fourteen Congressional leaders.

es pol- Mr. Hagerty said he knew of concen- no plans for either Mr. Dulles prob- or Charles E. Bohlen, United border States Ambassador to the Soviet 's re- Union, to visit the President for a here. He did not rule out such visit, however.

taking Canada Bars Paul Robeson, attitude some as a Paul Robeson will not be per- whose mitted to enter Canada to begin Egypt a seventeen-concert tour, sched- ver- uled to start April 17. The Fed- uly eral Immigration and Naturalization Service has denied the baritone a visa announcing simply that "He will not be admitted under present

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## Islamic World Alerted to Spot On Kremlin Table of Conquest

By a Special Correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

The Islamic world has been warned it may be next on the Soviet list and that the Kremlin already is laying the groundwork to a strike in this direction.

The warning came from the National Turkestanian Unity Committee, an anti-Communist underground with headquarters in Europe, and was partially confirmed by western intelligence reports.

The first step by the Russians

was to recently issue an "answer to the appeal of Abdul Majid" which made these points:

1. Russia started its campaign to uproot the Mohammedan faith in 1925 by closing down thousands of mosques and arrested, shot, or banished to Siberia all priests.

2. The Soviet Government banned all prayers, religious customs and ceremonies and tore down 90 per cent of the mosques "under the pretext they needed

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